

FEB 02 2000

MS. SNYDER: Hi, everybody. I'm glad to see all these faces here.

My name is Suzy Snyder. I work with the Shundahai Network in Las Vegas, and the rest of our organization will be here this evening to address this.

There's a lot of different things I have to say about this document, which although I called the office numerous times, I called the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management to ask for this document, I went down to the office in Las Vegas and did I ever get it? No.

The first time I've had a chance to see this is here today, and I've called and called and I'm very disappointed in how this has -- that this has happened.

1 The same thing happened to me with the DEIS for Yucca Mountain. I had to call six times to get that statement, and it's really appalling because this is supposed to be a public process, and the public is not -- does not seem to be invited to participate.

These hearings are not very friendly to the public. I want to register, to formally say that the question and answer period needs to be a part of these meetings so that people can get their questions addressed by someone who feels comfortable, feels safe enough to address them because, as you said before, you guys don't feel like you can do that.

In your document here, it actually speaks to that. If you go to -- I don't know how these things are -- are -- I'm not a lawyer or anything, but it's on 67083. I wonder where the other 6,000 -- 60,000 pages are.

Anyway, this says: "DOE officials may be available to answer technical questions about the proposed regulation articulated in this notice." However, that was not made available here today, and again I'd like to request that it is available in the future.

I have some -- just glancing through this, I've had some really strong concerns, like I'm looking at this table here, as you can see on 67069, this table and anything here that -- that has the word "disqualifying" on it is not addressed in the 963.

I want to know and I would like a formal response to my address, 5007, Elmhurst Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada 89108-1304 as to what will disqualify Yucca Mountain, what will stop Yucca Mountain, because you guys have spent 7.4 billion dollars of my money and I've seen nothing.

So I want to know what's going to -- what's going to stop the mountain because it don't cut the mustard.

I'd like to repeat what has been said here before that -- that the words "Yucca Mountain" were not mentioned in the -- in the announcements about this hearing in the flyer that was passed out.

I'd also like to mention that I personally called the newspapers because I said, "I saw this Yucca Mountain comment period extended until February 28th," and I thought wow, DEIS extended, great, and I called the newspaper to get clarification. The newspaper didn't have any clarification for me.

I called the OCRW -- CRW office, whatever, to get clarification. They said, "No, DEIS comment's still February 9th. This is about the siting guidelines," and I asked, "How come that wasn't mentioned in the newspaper? How come the words "siting guidelines" weren't mentioned?" and I'd like to -- I'd like you guys to address that and kind of take -- you know, put it -- make it a high priority as to get the public to these hearings because this is our health that you guys are messing around with.

- 2 [And I want to know, and again, I want to ask if Yucca Mountain could meet the 960 guidelines. If the sit -- if the site was suitable to those guidelines, why are they being changed? Why?

I want an answer to that question. I want it soon. I want the transcripts from this hearing. I want the transcripts from the January 11th hearing. I'm still waiting on those, although Michael from the OCRW office told me that I'd have them by the end of this week. I haven't seen anything yet.

- 3 [I'd like to make a note that the state engineer today -- and that's the engineer -- rejected the permit application for water usage at Yucca Mountain, and I'd like to make sure everybody here is aware of that.

And at Yucca Mountain, they wanted to use all this water, they're going to contaminate, they're going to put it back out there.

It's going to go into our milk, it's going to go into our food, you know -- anyway, and I just want to make that known that I'm very happy that that permit application was rejected.

I hope that they reject for water usage at the test site. I hope that we can shut you guys down.

- 4 [I want to talk about the total system performance assessment and I want to ask if this is what -- if this is how the site will be evaluated. If it's going to go on the TSPA and not go on -- and not go on the geologic guidelines, you know.

If it's the total system -- if the TSPA is what's going to keep us away from this radiation, what's going to keep the nuclear waste out of my hair, then how come they can't just leave it where it is?

- 5 [Why -- why move it to Yucca Mountain which -- if you go inside -- if you go into alcove 5 of Yucca Mountain, you are standing in puddles of water. You have water dripping on your head.

You can see the signs and the pictures that say: "Why is water dripping on my head?" Well, it's dripping on your head because that mountain is moving and that mountain is not an acceptable place for nuclear waste.

[We know it's not acceptable for nuclear waste. That's why they're trying to change these guidelines.

This is like -- this is like I'm playing baseball or something in the middle -- in the middle of the game and I decide oh, I'm going to run to third base and then run back home instead of going all the way around the bases and following the process because this is -- this is -- I'm appalled.

6 I'm really like appalled that this is going on, that you people and, you know -- I know you people -- you people sitting here in front of me are not, you know, the big evil -- you may be -- I don't know who -- I don't know you, so this is not a personal attack, but [what this Department of Energy is doing to us is insane.

I am suffering because of what the Department of Energy is doing. Other people are suffering. Thousands and thousands of people are suffering, and I want you to stop.

Again, I'd like an answer what's going to disqualify it, what's going to disqualify Yucca Mountain, and I want to -- to understand.

I would like for you to justify to me -- I'd really like to hear something about what you think -- what you think you're doing.

Let me flip through this one more second. Okay. Here we go. On page 67072, it says here "with respect to qualifying and disqualifying conditions, DOE believes that it is not reasonable or necessary to maintain these conditions in a proposed new rule."

As I read that, that says that if the DOE says it's not reasonable or necessary to find any conditions which will disqualify Yucca Mountain.

I want to know when we're going to get the mountain back. Okay. I want to know when we're getting that mountain back.

When are you going to fill that tunnel back up, get that huge, ugly, disgusting, gross white boring machine out of there -- and it's boring. [Anyway, my own little pun.

7 [This process is boring. That's part of the problem with this public process is, you know, it's really boring to sit here and listen to law after law after law after law.

Let's talk about reality, let's talk about people, let's talk about human impacts.

8 [The only thing I saw in here that said anything about possible disqualifier is human impacts. Now, how come socioeconomic impact was not -- was not counted in the DEIS?

If that's what's going to disqualify it, why aren't you counting it? Why aren't you like taking a look at it?

9... [How come the only health effects that the DOE counts -- seems to count these days is if you're dead?

...9 Well, I have health effects. That doesn't mean I'm dead. You know, one out of ten people in Nevada is coming down with breast -- one out of twenty in Nevada is coming down the breast cancer.

Not all those are dying, but those are damn well health effects and I want to know how come -- if all these health effects are happening, they're out there, there's higher incidences of birth defects, there's mutations. We see it.

We've seen what you people can do and we haven't even seen the tip of the iceberg yet because we don't know the full effects of what full scale testing did, the above ground testing did. We're only just -- these things are just coming out.

It takes generations for this stuff to really manifest itself and it's start to go show up.

Look at how people who live near Chernobyl and in that area, only now is it showing up that, yeah, okay, so their life expectancy rate has dropped 45 percent.

Okay. Now that is huge, and this -- the effects show up later than when you people are estimating them. I'm just -- like I said, I'm appalled. I'm really appalled.

This here says -- you looked at this -- the chlorine 36. I want to talk about that chlorine 36 study. You all know that that chlorine 36 came from atmospheric tests that happened in the South Pacific.

10 This isn't coming from the Nevada Test Site, that chlorine 36 that they're finding inside the mountain. No, this came all the way around -- from all the way around the world, and how come, you know, this is -- as it's shown, it's inside the mountain.

So obviously it's moved there in less than -- less than a thousand years, and in the original guidelines, it said if water moved in -- in under -- over -- under a thousand years, the site would have to be disqualified.

11 Well, the site -- as far as I'm concerned, the site is disqualified, the site is shut down. You guys can pack up in leave and because it's really -- you know, it's very, very frustrating to see all this money being spent on this project which isn't doing anything except for misleading the public and giving some -- some fantastic la-ti-da, you know, solution to this nuclear waste problem, and it's not a solution. It's -- dilution not a solution. Dilution is listed in here as -- as a potential, you know, effect.

Dilution is no solution to pollution. Although it rhymes, it's really snazzy sounding. You know, it's great for the snazziness, but that's no solution, and I want you -- I want you folks to understand it the way that I understand it, the say I who have seen a two-headed snake near Three Mile Island, I have seen these effects of radiation, and we have got -- it last got to stop.

This is great. It was written up in the newspaper. This kid found a two-headed snake. You know, I called him up. Two-headed snake. You know what, he's feed the snake? You know how you feed the snake like living things, mice and grasshoppers a things.

4

Well, this snake would bite at its own head, and that's what I'm seeing here. We're fighting at our own heads. You guys got to quit it.

I want to know -- here it says: "DOE guideline 960 421" -- numbers, numbers, numbers. This is what -- this is under the -- maybe I should have stayed in school for a little bit longer because I can't even say these words. "Analogous NRC provision. There's a performance objective directing that the pre-waste emplacement groundwater travel time along the fastest of likely blah-blah-blah must be at least 1,000 years or such other trial times approved by the NRC."

Well, I haven't heard anything from the NRC, but what they're new -- do they come up with a new -- you said they didn't come up with a new travel time assessment yet.

So these are problems, problems, problems, and I wasn't here in '94, '96 when this was -- when you guys started this because, well, I was in high school, and so I couldn't be out here. I didn't know about this. Because they don't talk about these in public schools. They don't talk about this type of atrocity. In fact, they don't talk about a lot that I'm finding out about and it's really -- it's cutting me to the bone what's going on here.

I'm -- I'm about to start crying because I'm very upset about this.

12 But anyway, what I'm saying is you guys -- basically to sum up, I would like to see this -- this particular process, this new 10 CFR 963, [I think you guys should scrap it, toss it. Same thing with the DEIS. It's a big load of recycling, and although I didn't get my copy for over a month, you know, other people I know had similar problems, but it should be -- it should be scrapped.

You should close up that hole in Yucca Mountain, fill the tunnel back up. There's all that gravel sitting right there. You can just put it back in.]

13 [Sure, it's not going to be the same, but you know what? There's so many earthquakes that happen out there. We all know about those earthquakes that happen out there, that there's like two or three a day.

[I'm not talking -- they don't have to be huge magnitude, but they're happening and this is -- this should be mentioned in here.

14 [If you're going to do -- if you're going to only go by TSPA, then you guys have to, you know, seriously think about the transportation.

15 I'd like to see -- I'd really like to know -- and again, I gave you my address, my name's Suzy and you got my address, and this fella here has got it, too and [I'd really like to see a response as to what will disqualify Yucca Mountain.]

You can tell me -- you can put it in the newspaper. I read the paper everyday. You can put it in the paper, but what is it going to take that will disqualify Yucca Mountain because it -- this project is -- it's ridiculous. It's a big waste of taxpayer money.

I pay taxes. I'm sick of paying this -- paying for this hole in the ground and I'm not -- you now, I'm not going to stand for it anymore, and I know a lot of other people who are not standing for this anymore and are really sick of what's been going on and what's happening to what -- to our air, to our water, to what you propose to do to the water that moves to where -- you know, I drink from it, you know. This is -- this is -- this is my water.

We got one water on this planet. My body is sixty, seventy percent water and that water's constantly changing, it's constantly going through me, and you know what? Sometime, Anita, it may be going through you, and sometime, Bill, that water -- that same water may be going through you.

And so this leaking, like with the Beatty dump, this groundwater leaking out from Beatty that's contaminated, or the test site. How come we don't even know what's leaking from the test site? Why can't you people clean up the problems you've made instead of creating more and more problems? I'm really, really frustrated.

I'd also like to announce that there's a nuclear test happening tomorrow. Everybody. It's called Oboe 3 and they're going to do it at the test site and it's the ninth in the series since -- that started in 1997.

So Oboe 3 is happening at the test site tomorrow and, you know, this is just another -- another example of the DOE, here we are. We've got this hearing in Las Vegas tomorrow, which -- which we'd like to have packed the way we packed the DEIS hearing. The way we packed the DEIS hearing and show you that, you know -- that it's not going to go, but this 963, it's so confusing, it's so messed up for the general public.

Let's start -- if we're going to offer something to the public, if we're going to say hey, yeah, we'll participate in public process, let's at least make it accessible to the public, you know, because this isn't accessible.

Putting it on the Web page, that's classic. That's not acceptable. You've got to make hard copies available. You've got to make succinct -- you've got to make good announcements in the newspapers. You've got to make put it on the radio, and I'll tell you something, the majority of people in this country, they get their news from the TV, and that means you people got to start putting this on the TV.

16

You got a hearing in town. [Last hearing, the DEIS hearing, I ran out -- I called all the TV stations. I ran that out and made sure it was on the TV the night before, and that is your responsibility. I'm not getting paid to do this work. I'm doing this for free.]

You know, I should be out making some money today so I can pay my rent which is back, but I can't because I have to be here. I should be doing that tomorrow, but I can't. Because I have to be dealing with the subcritical test, and then I also have to be dealing with this hearing.

6

So I'll see you all tomorrow night. You know, no doubt about that. I'll miss the morning session, but I'll see you tomorrow night. We'll talk more about this. I'll see you then. Thanks for your time.